WE CLAIM:

1. A topical pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor antagonist and at least one analgesic that functions through an opiate receptor and a pharmaceutically acceptable topical excipient.

2. The topical pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 comprising at least one analgesic and wherein the analgesic is selected from the group consisting of an opiate, an opiate derivative, an opioid, enkephalins, endorphins and synthetic opioid peptides.

3. The topical pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, wherein the opioid is selected from the group consisting of ethylmorphine, hydromorphine, morphine, oxymorphone, codeine, levorphanol, oxycodone, pentazocine, propoxyphene, fentanyl, sufentanil, lofentanil, morphine-6-glucuronide and buprenorphine.

4. The topical pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, wherein the enkephalin is selected from the group consisting of [D-Ala^2, MePhe^4, Gly (ol)^5] enkephalin, and endomorphines.

5. The topical pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the analgesic is morphine.

6. The topical pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the NMDA receptor antagonist is selected from the group consisting of dextromethorphan, dextrorphan, ketamine, pyroloquinoline quinone, cis-4-(phosphonomethyl)-2-piperdine carboxylic acid, MK801, memantine, and their mixtures and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

7. The topical pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 further comprising a local anesthetic.

8. The topical pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7, wherein the local anesthetic is selected from the group consisting of lidocaine, bupivacaine, mepivacaine, ropivacaine, tetracaine and benzocaine.

9. A method of providing peripheral analgesia to a mammal comprising topical administration of a tolerance-attenuating or preventing dose of at least one NMDA receptor antagonist prior to, concurrently, or following topical administration of at least one analgesic that functions through an opiate receptor.

10. The method according to claim 9, wherein the NMDA receptor antagonist is selected from the group consisting of dextromethorphan, dextrorphan, ketamine, pyroloquinoline quinone, cis-4-(phosphonomethyl)-2-piperdine carboxylic acid, MK801, memantine, and their mixtures and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

11. The method according to claim 9, wherein the analgesic is selected from the group consisting of an opiate, an opiate derivative, an opioid, enkephalins and endorphins.

12. The method according to claim 11, wherein the opioid is selected from the group consisting of ethylmorphine, hydromorphine, morphine, oxymorphone, codeine, levorphanol, oxycodone, pentazocine, propoxyphene, fentanyl, sufentanil, lofentanil, morphine-6-glucuronide and buprenorphine.

13. The method according to claim 9, wherein the enkephalin is selected from the group consisting of [D-Ala^2, MePhe^4, Gly (ol)^5] enkephalin, and endorphines.

14. The method according to claim 9, wherein the NMDA receptor antagonist is administered in a dose of about 0.1% to about 5%.

15. A method of providing analgesia to a mammal with pre-existing tolerance to an analgesic comprising topical administration of an effective

tolerance-reversing dose of at least one NMDA receptor antagonist concurrently or following topical or systemic administration of at least one analgesic that functions through an opiate receptor.

16. A pharmaceutical tolerance-inhibiting analgesic kit comprising:

(a) a topical or systemic pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one analgesic that functions through an opiate receptor; and

(b) a topical pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one tolerance-inhibiting NMDA receptor antagonist.

17. A method of providing analgesia to a mammal comprising topical administration of at least one analgesic that functions through an opiate receptor prior to, concurrently or following systemic or intrathecal administration of a second analgesic that functions through an opiate receptor.

18. The method according to claim 17, further comprising topical administration of a tolerance-attenuating or preventing dose of at least one NMDA receptor antagonist.